

tell only Napoleon.⁷ — 'Did you mean to attempt his life ?' — 'Yes.' — ⁱ Why ? ⁷ — [£] I can tell none but Napoleon.'

" This appeared to me so strange that I thought right to inform the Emperor of it. When I told him what had passed he appeared a little agitated, for you know how he was haunted with the idea of assassination. He desired that the young man should be taken into his cabinet, whither he was accordingly conducted by two *yens d'armes*. Notwithstanding his criminal intention there was something exceedingly prepossessing in his countenance. I wished that he would deny the attempt; but how was it possible to save a man who was determined to sacrifice himself ? The Emperor asked Staps whether he could speak French, and he answered that he could speak it very imperfectly, and as you know (continued B,app) that next to you I am the best German scholar in Napoleon's Court,, I was appointed interpreter on this occasion. The Emperor put the following questions to Staps, which I translated, together with the answers : —

" 'Where do you come from?' — 'From Narremburgh.' — 'What is your father?' — * A Protestant minister.' — 'How old are you?'³ — 'Eighteen.' — ^c What did you intend to do with your knife?* — ⁴ To kill you.' — 'You are mad, young man; you are one of the illuminati ?' — 'I am not mad; I know not what is meant by the illuminati!'⁷ — 'You are ill, then ?' — 'I am not; I am very well.' — ^e Why did you wish to kill me ?' — '.Because you have ruined my country.' — 'Have I done you any harm?' — 'Yes, you have harmed me as well as all Germans.' — '"By whom were you sent? Who urged you to this crime ?' ⁷ — '.No one; I was urged to it by the sincere conviction that by killing you I should, render the, greatest; service to my country.' — 'Is this the first time you have, seen me?'* — 'M' saw you at Erfurt, at the time of your interview with the Emperor of Russia.' — 'Did you intend to kill me then ?' ^j — < No; I thought you would not again wage war against Germany. I was one of your greatest, admirers.' — 'How long have you been in Vienna?'⁷ — 'Ten days.' — 'Why did you wait so long before you attempted the execution of your project?' — 'I came to